

*CALIFORNIA / MEXICO
BORDER*

Pesticide Episode Response Plan

*County of Imperial
Agricultural Commissioner
150 South Ninth Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 482-4314*

The Pesticide Episode Response Plan

Developed by:

Cliff Gruenberg
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner

Hiram Rocha
Agricultural Biologist II

In cooperation with:

Mario Ibarra
Border Program Coordinator
California Environmental Protection Agency

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Purpose and Border Area

Purpose

To establish a system for exchanging data and providing a notification network between the Agricultural Commissioner's Office and Mexicali which jointly utilizes appropriate local, state, or federal agencies to report and respond to episodes involving pesticides which adversely impact health or the environment. To include this information in a manual which is available to assist county agricultural commissioner staff in responding to pesticide related episodes affecting the border area.

Border Area

The border area is designated as two kilometers on either side of the international border. Pesticide incidents occurring anywhere in Imperial County that affect Mexican citizens will be investigated.

Definitions

Episode

Any event which involves a violation of the pesticide use provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, potential of actual illness, damage, harm, loss, or contamination which results from the use or presence of a pesticide. Episodes generally can be divided into types based on the nature of the effect as follows:

Human Effects

Human effects episodes are those that involve pesticide exposure and/or illness/injury of people. Human effects episodes can arise from pest control aircraft mishaps, pesticide handler accidents, exposure to residues in treated areas, exposure from drift or residue, etc.

Property Damage or Loss

These are episodes that involve contamination or damage of property. Some common property loss episodes are: plant damage resulting from drift of an herbicide; bee kills; domestic animal poisoning; residues that result in the inability to market a crop or animal; phytotoxic effects or nonperformance of a pesticide with subsequent pest damage.

Environmental Effects

These episodes involve contamination or damage to the environment in general. Examples of environmental effects are: fish or wildlife kills; lake or stream contamination; ground water contamination; air pollution or land contamination.

California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation

Cal/EPA's Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has primary responsibility for regulating all aspects of pesticide sales and use to protect public health and the environment. DPR regulates all aspects of pesticide sales and use, recognizing the need to control pests, while protecting public health and the environment and fostering reduced-risk pest management strategies. DPR oversees County Agricultural Commissioner Pesticide Use Enforcement programs.

Before a pesticide can be sold or used in California, it must first be registered by U.S. EPA. It can then be evaluated and registered by DPR Scientists at DPR work closely with other state agencies, including the departments of Fish and Game and Health Services, as well as agencies within Cal/EPA, including the State Water Resources Control Board, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Air Resources Board, and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. DPR scientists evaluate potential workplace hazards of pesticides, reviewing studies on active and inert ingredients in pesticide products and on application methodologies. DPR consults with physicians who can provide medical advice and assistance on pesticide exposures and act as liaison with practicing physicians regarding pesticide illness and treatment.

The Department also participates in and evaluates the results of investigations of pesticide-related illnesses, with an emphasis on preventing occupational illnesses and injuries. DPR scientists monitor the environmental fate of pesticides, and identify and analyze chemical, cultural, and biological alternatives for managing pests. To assure compliance with pesticide laws, DPR oversees licensing and certification of dealers, pest control advisers, pest control businesses and applicators; has overall responsibility for pesticide incident investigations; administers a state pesticide residue monitoring program; monitors pesticide product compliance; and coordinates pesticide use reporting.

County of Imperial - Agricultural Commissioner's Office
Pesticide Use Enforcement Division

The County Agricultural Commissioner and staff enforce state laws and regulations pertaining to pesticide use at the local level. This enforcement consists of:

Issuing permits for restricted materials. Prior to issuing these permits, the commissioner must evaluate the environmental impact of the pesticide use and either deny the use or require mitigation measures to be utilized if such impact exists.

Registering and regulating all licensed pesticide dealers, pest control businesses, applicators, pest control advisers, and farm labor contractors, including auditing of their records to ensure compliance of pesticide use laws and regulations.

Investigating all complaints or reports of incidents involving pesticide use, including: crop damage, residue damage, worker illness, public illness, etc.

Monitoring all pesticide use including agricultural (pre and post harvest) and structural applications, in addition to worker health and safety requirements.

Taking compliance and enforcement actions where violations of the regulations can be established.

Incident Protocol

General Comments

Reporting of the episode may take any of the following forms: Pesticide Illness Report, Doctor's First Report of Work Injury, Citizen or Employee Complaint Form of Unsafe Conditions, Government Agency Report, notification from pest control operators, growers, etc., or the news media.

Notification

When a pesticide episode occurs in California, notify the Mexican civil protection service by faxing a complete pesticide episode notification form (on page 38) and follow up with a phone call to:

Fernando Rivera

Dirección de Bomberos y Protección Civil Municipal

Blvd. Lazaro Cárdenas No. 1601

Mexicali, BC México Tel. and Fax: (686)561-8212 or 561-8232

Emergency 068

and

Raymundo Noriega Cota

Coordinador de Programa y Desarrollo

Dirección Estatal de Protección Civil

Lago Winnipeg #441

Fracc. Jardines del Lago

Mexicali, BC C.P., 21330 México

Tel. (686)557-2850 or 555-4998, Fax (686)557-4758

- These state and local civil protection agencies will follow the same protocol and notify the appropriate agencies.

For information purposes, the Agricultural Commissioner's office will send a copy of the notification sent to Protección Civil, to the Office of Emergency Service (OES).

Within Imperial County refer to the appropriate heading(s) in the Pesticide Episode Response Plan's table of contents and notify the appropriate agencies listed using the pesticide notification form (on page 38).

When a pesticide episode occurs in Mexico, notify OES by faxing a complete Pesticide Episode Notification form (on page 39) and follow up with a phone call to:

Chief Joe Buzo

Imperial County Fire Dept.

2514 La Brucherie

Imperial, CA 92251

Phone (760) 355-1191

Fax (760) 355-1482

Upon receiving notification from the Mexican Civil Protection Service, OES shall notify the Agricultural Commissioner's office immediately.

Incident Protocol

Priority Investigation*

Notify the Department of Pesticide Regulation, Southern Regional Office and the border coordinator of the episode and request a priority number for documented exposures/illnesses. Refer to the appropriate heading(s) in the Pesticide Episode Response Plan's table of contents (page 3) Notify the agencies listed using the pesticide episode notification form on page 38.

*As defined in the Cooperative Agreement found on page 43 of this manual.

Information Exchange

If information regarding the episode is needed from any of the Mexican agencies, use the information exchange form on page 40. A follow-up phone call should be made to the agencies when using this form.

Investigating the Episode

- Interview all representatives of available affected parties, such as employee(s), employer, injured, complainant, witnesses, doctors, clinics, hospitals, and respondents. Refer to section C page 10 of the pesticide use enforcement manual.
- Map area, identify surrounding impacted areas.
- When samples are collected - Refer to DPR's investigative sampling manual for detailed instructions including: formulating a sampling plan, collection, preservation and shipment, sample analysis report (PR-ENF-030), including chain of custody. If it is necessary to sample in Mexico contact the appropriate Mexican agency (depending on episode type) to arrange for a sampling appointment. Protección Civil will act as liaison to make arrangements. Provide duplicate sample for Mexican official if requested.
- Review records of growers, pest control advisers and operators, dealers, and health care providers to gather pertinent information such as application records, crop history, use reports, and doctor's reports.
- Request all information or reports generated from notified agencies concerning the episode.
- Include any relevant information obtained for other agencies in the final episode report and make the report available to all agencies involved in the investigation.

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Mario Ibarra
Border Program Coordinator
California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation - Enforcement Branch
2895 N. Larkin Avenue, Suite B
Fresno, CA 93727 Phone/Fax: (661) 665-2060 Phone: (559) 445-5401 or (661) 201-3125 (Anaheim)

The Department of Pesticide Regulation has primary responsibility for regulating all aspects of pesticide sales and use to protect the public health. The Border Coordinator should be notified of any episode occurring in the border area. Performs liaison communication with DPR headquarters and other California state agencies.

Jahan Motakef
Supervising Pesticide Use Specialist
Department of Pesticide Regulation
130 Chaparral Court, Suite 130
Anaheim, CA 92808 Phone: (714) 279-7011 Fax: (714) 279-7692

The Department of Pesticide Regulation has primary responsibility for regulating all aspects of pesticide sales and use to protect the public health and the environment. The Supervising Pesticide Use Specialist or the Senior liaison for Imperial county should be notified of any episode occurring in the border area. Provides technical assistance on investigations and sampling, coordinates sample analysis with CDFA.

Cliff Gruenberg
Deputy Agricultural Commissioner
Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner's Office
Pesticide Use Enforcement
150 South Ninth Street
El Centro, CA 92243 Phone: (760) 482-4314 Fax: (760) 353-2561

Enforces state laws and regulations pertaining to pesticide use. Issues permits for restricted materials. Registers and Regulates all licensed pesticide dealers, pest control businesses, applicators, pest control advisers, and farm labor contractors. Investigates all pesticide related illnesses, reports and complaints. Monitors all pesticide use.

Illness - Injury - Complaints

Thomas L. Wolf

Director

Imperial County Department of Public Health Services

Division of Environmental Health Services

939 Main Street

El Centro, CA 92243 Phone: (760) 482-4203

Fax: (760) 352-1309

Imperial County Health Officer

Dr. Benjamin Lehr

Phone: (760) 482-4429

Receives reports of pesticide related illnesses and forwards them to State health investigative agency (i.e., DPR and the County Agricultural Commissioner) under direction of the health officer, implement measures to protect human health in Imperial county to minimize environmental exposure routes of released pesticides. Upon request of official health agency(s) in Mexico, coordinate efforts to protect human health in Imperial county with counter parts in Mexico through established lines of communication.

Illness - Injury - Complaints

Dr. Francisco Vera González

Instituto de Servicios de Salud Pública en el Estado de Baja California

Ave. Pioneros #1005, 3er Piso

Centro Cívico,

Mexicali, B.C. C.P. 21000 Tel. and Fax (686)559-5817, 557-2820, or Tel. 559-5800 ext. 4100

Receives reports of accidents regarding hazardous materials (including pesticides). The accident is investigated to establish the number of affected persons, pesticides applied, and applying company to verify conditions of application and cause of accident. Sanctions are then issued to the company or person responsible for the accident.

Ing. Enrique Gámez

Jefe del Area de Residuos Peligrosos y Guías Ecológicas

Secretaria de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT)

Av. Madero 537

Mexicali, BC Tel. (686)551-8711 or 551-8700 ext. 38703 Fax (686)551-8730

Establish the rules, regulations, and environmental legislation enforced by (PROFEPA) Procuraduria Federal de Protección al Ambiente.

Lic. Alejandro Alvarez Cárdenas

Delegado Estatal

Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente (PROFEPA)

Ave. Alfonso García González #555

Col. Profesores Federales

Mexicali, B.C. C.P. 21370 Tel. (686)568-9266 or 568-9267 Fax (686)568-9252

Ing. Monica Ledezma Nieto

Sub Delegada de Dictaminación Técnica Tel. (686)568-9260 Fax (686)568-9252

Assures compliance in the following areas: flora and fauna, fish & game, environmental impact, industry, forestry, marine, land & sea. During a pesticide episode they find the origin of the problem, establish the most adequate handling consistent with storage, treatment and final disposition following the current environmental legislation.

Illness - Injury - Complaints

Ing. Maximiliano Cervantes Ramírez
Jefe del Programa de Sanidad Vegetal
Secretaría de Agricultura Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación (SAGARPA)
Ave. Reforma y Calle L
Col. Nueva
Mexicali, B.C. Tel. (686)554-7265 or (686)553-6140 Fax (686)554-2659

Responsible for assuring compliance through inspection and verification of all persons or entities dedicated to the fabrication, formulation, commercialization, use and handling of agricultural pesticides. They also register and issue permits to growers and pest control advisers, operators, and pilots.

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Drift

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Aircraft Residues

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Evacuations

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Carlos Escalante (Chief)**Calexico Fire Department****430 East Fifth Street****Calexico, CA 92231 Phone (760) 768-2150****Fax (760) 768-2153****Joe Buzo (Chief)****Imperial County Fire Department****2514 La Brucherie****Imperial, CA 92251****Phone (760) 355-1191****Fax (760) 355-1482**

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Lt. Joe Brana
California Department of Fish and Game
1602 S. 24th Street
El Centro, CA 92243 Phone: (760) 352-3059 or (760) 485-1645

Conducts investigations of any wildlife losses pertaining to the use of pesticides.

Fresh Water

Michael Remington, Haz-Mat Supervisor

Imperial Irrigation District

333 E. Barioni Blvd.

Imperial, CA 92251

Phone: (760) 482-9831

Fax: (760) 482-9896

IID monitors and maintains all agricultural waterways in Imperial County. They have a haz-mat team and trained personnel that respond and investigate any pesticide episode on IID property.

Fresh Water

Dr. Francisco Vera González**Instituto de Servicios de Salud Pública en el Estado de Baja California****Ave. Pioneros #1005, 3er Piso****Centro Cívico,****Mexicali, B.C. C.P. 21000 Tel. and Fax (686)559-5817, 557-2820, or Tel. 559-5800 ext. 4100**

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Ing. Enrique Gámez**Jefe del Area de Residuos Peligrosos y Guías Ecológicas****Secretaria de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT)****Av. Madero 537****Mexicali, BC Tel. (686)551-8711 or 551-8700 ext. 38703 Fax (686)551-8730**

Establish the rules, regulations, and environmental legislation enforced by (PROFEPA) Procuraduria Federal de Protección al Ambiente.

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They assure compliance in the following areas: flora and fauna, fish & game, environmental impact, industry, forestry, marine, land & sea. During a pesticide episode they find the origin of the problem, establish the most adequate handling consistent with storage, treatment and final disposition following the current environmental legislation.

Fresh Water

Ing. Maximiliano Cervantes Ramírez
Jefe del Programa de Sanidad Vegetal
Secretaría de Agricultura Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación (SAGARPA)
Ave. Reforma y Calle L
Col. Nueva
Mexicali, B.C. Tel. (686)554-7265 or (686)553-6140 Fax (686)554-2659

Responsible for assuring compliance through inspection and verification of all persons or entities dedicated to the fabrication, formulation, commercialization, use and handling of agricultural pesticides. They also register and issue permits to growers and pest control advisers, operators, and pilots.

Ing. Francisco Tellez Gamez
Sub-Gerente Regional Técnico
Comisión Nacional del Agua
Ave. Reforma y Calle "L" S/R
Col. Nueva
Mexicali, BC CP 21100 Tel. (686)552-3337 ext. 169 y 179 Fax (686)554-0790

Ing. Francisco Bierna Espinoza
Sub-Gerente de Brigada de Protección a la Infraestructura y Atención de Emergencias
Tel. (686)554-1423 Fax (686)554-0790

Propose policies and establish rules and regulations relating to the use, distribution, and improvement of water. Measure and regulate all water usage. Ensure and conserve water quality. Fully investigate all pesticide related episodes which affects water including fish kills.

Wildlife Including Livestock / Domestic Animals

Mario Ibarra**Border Program Coordinator****California Environmental Protection Agency****Department of Pesticide Regulation - Enforcement Branch****2895 N. Larkin Avenue, Suite B****Fresno, CA 93727 Phone/Fax: (661) 665-2060 Phone: (559) 445-5401 or (661) 201-3125 (Anaheim)**

The Department of Pesticide Regulation has primary responsibility for regulating all aspects of pesticide sales and use to protect the public health and the environment. The Border Coordinator should be notified of any episode occurring in the border area. Performs liaison communication with DPR headquarters and other California state agencies.

Jahan Motakef**Supervising Pesticide Use Specialist****Department of Pesticide Regulation****130 Chaparral Court, Suite 130****Anaheim, CA 92808****Phone: (714) 279-7011****Fax: (714) 279-7692**

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Cliff Gruenberg**Deputy Agricultural Commissioner****Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner's Office****Pesticide Use Enforcement****150 South Ninth Street****El Centro, CA 92243****Phone: (760) 482-4314****Fax: (760) 353-2561**

Enforces state laws and regulations pertaining to pesticide use. Issues permits for restricted materials. Evaluates the environmental impact of pesticide use. Registers and Regulates all licensed pesticide dealers, pest control businesses, applicators, pest control advisers, and farm labor contractors. Investigates all pesticide related illnesses, reports and complaints. Monitors all pesticide use.

Lt. Joe Brana**California Department of Fish and Game****1602 S. 24th Street****El Centro, CA 92243 Phone: (760) 352-3059 or (760) 485-1645**

Conducts investigations of any wildlife losses pertaining to the use of pesticides.

Wildlife Including Livestock / Domestic Animals

Michael Remington, Haz-Mat Supervisor

Imperial Irrigation District

333 E. Barioni Blvd.

Imperial, CA 92251 Phone: (760) 482-9831 Fax: (760) 482-9896

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Wildlife Including Livestock / Domestic Animals

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Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner's Office
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Environmental Property
Land

Dr. Francisco Vera González
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Carlos Escalante (Chief)
Calexico Fire Department
430 East Fifth Street
Calexico, CA 92231 Phone: (760) 768-2150 Fax: (760) 768-2153

Joe Buzo (Chief)
Imperial County Fire Department
2514 La Brucherie
Imperial, CA 92251 Phone: (760) 355-1191 Fax: (760) 355-1482

Spill

Dr. Francisco Vera González

Instituto de Servicios de Salud Pública en el Estado de Baja California

Ave. Pioneros #1005, 3er Piso

Centro Cívico,

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Fernando Rivera
Dirección de Bomberos y Protección Civil Municipal
Blvd. Lazaro Cárdenas No. 1601
Mexicali, BC Tel. and Fax: (686)561-8212 or 561-8232 Emergency 068

and

Raymundo Noriega Cota
Coordinador de Programa y Desarrollo
Dirección Estatal de Protección Civil
Lago Winnipeg #441
Fracc. Jardines del Lago
Mexicali, BC, C.P. 21330 Tel. (686)557-2850 or 555-4998, Fax (686)557-4758

- These state and local civil protection agencies will follow the same protocol and notify the appropriate agencies.

For information purposes, the Border Coordinator will send a copy of the notification sent to Protección Civil, to the Office of Emergency Service (OES).

Within Imperial County refer to the appropriate heading(s) in the Pesticide Episode Response Plan's table of contents and notify the appropriate agencies listed using the pesticide notification form (on page 38).

California / Mexico Border Pesticide Episode Notification

Stephen L. Birdsall
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

*Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights & Measures
150 South Ninth Street
El Centro, CA 92243
Phone: (760) 482-4314
Fax: (760) Fax 353-2561*

Miguel A. Monroy
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

Priority Number

Incident Number

To:

Name

Address

City/Zip

Phone

Fax

Incident Information

Time: _____ **Date:** _____ **Location:** _____

Injured Parties: Yes [☐] No [☐] **Name(s)**

Signed Complaint: Yes [☐] No [☐] **Address:**

Phone:

General Description of Episode:

California / México Border

Notificación por Incidente con Pesticidas

{Poner su logotipo con dirección, teléfono, y fax en esta parte}

Prioridad Número

Incidente Número

A:

Nombre

Dirección

Ciudad/C.P.

Teléfono

Fax

Información del Incidente

Hora: _____ Fecha: _____ Localidad: _____

Afectados (as): Si ☐ No ☐ Nombre(s):

Reclamación Firmada: Si ☐ No ☐ Dirección:

Teléfono:

Descripción General del Incidente:

California / Mexico Border Pesticide Episode Information Request

Stephen L. Birdsall
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

Agricultural Commissioner
**Sealer of Weights &
Measures**
150 South Ninth Street
El Centro, CA 92243
Phone: (760) 482-4314
Fax: (760) 353-2561

Miguel A. Monroy
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

Priority Number

Incident Number

To:

Name

Address

City/Zip

Phone

Fax

- Regarding the following:

- We are requesting:

- The purpose of the request:

California / México Border

Solicitud de Información por Incidente con Pesticidas

(Poner su logotipo con dirección, teléfono, y fax en esta parte)

Prioridad Número:

Incident Número:

A:

Nombre

Dirección

Ciudad/C.P.

Teléfono

Fax

- En relación a lo siguiente:

- Estamos solicitando:

- El propósito de la solicitud: